

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP'S SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE AND CONDEMNING RUSSIAN VIOLATION OF UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY, AS WELL AS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR STATE-BASED MEASURES TO PROHIBIT INVESTMENT IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

WHEREAS, Ukraine has been a distinct civilization since the 9th Century BCE, with origins in the Federation of the Kyivan Rus out of which the modern states Russia and Belarus also emerged¹; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine has been a sovereign, independent state since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, with the Russian Federation recognizing Ukraine as an independent country as of December 2, 1991; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Ukraine has been the victim of great tragedies, including, in the 20th Century alone:

- the *Holodomor* genocide, a manmade, Soviet-orchestrated famine that resulted in the starvation deaths of at least 3.5 million people despite Ukraine having the most fertile soil in Europe;
- the Nazi occupation of Ukraine from 1941 through 1944, during which an estimated 900,000 to 1.6 million Ukrainian Jews and 3 to 4 million non-Jewish Ukrainians perished;
- the industrial disaster at the Soviet-operated Chernobyl nuclear power plant in 1986, which resulted in the death and significant illness of thousands of Ukrainians, with environmental after effects felt in the country to this day; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine suffered yet another tragedy on February 24, 2022, when the army of the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked invasion of this sovereign country, resulting in a continuing international humanitarian emergency; and

WHEREAS, governments across the world, both small and large, have condemned this act of aggression and demanded peace and justice for the Ukrainian people; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey legislature has passed legislation (S1889/A3090), which would levy significant prohibitions on financial investment activity in the Russian Federation (akin to current New Jersey restrictions on similar activities with Iran that have been in place since 2008), with said legislation expected to be signed by Governor Phillip D. Murphy shortly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, on behalf of all residents thereof, express their solidarity with the people of the Ukraine and their total condemnation of this unprovoked act of aggression perpetrated by the Russian Federation.

¹ Applebaum, Anne, "Calamity Again," The Atlantic, February 23, 2022, <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/02/ukraine-identity-russia-patriotism/622902>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Council, that the provisions of S1889/A3090, sponsored by, among others, Assemblyman John DiMaio of the 23rd Legislative District of which Bridgewater is part, should be implemented immediately by the Township of Bridgewater, with said legislation significantly prohibiting financial investment activity with the Russian Federation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a true copy of this proclamation shall be transmitted to the Office of the Governor of New Jersey, the members of the 23rd Legislative District delegation, and such other entities as may be appropriate.

Introduced	Seconded	Council	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
✓		Kirsh	✓			
		Norgalis				✓
		Pedroso	✓			
	✓	Ring	✓			
		Kurdyla	✓			

Adopted: March 17, 2022

I, Grace Njuguna, RMC, Deputy Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, and the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bridgewater Township Council at a duly convened meeting held on March 17, 2022

Signed: 